

BYPASS CIRCUIT TO PREVENT ARCING IN A SWITCHING DEVICE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A device is provided for preventing arcing between contacts of a switching device as the contacts of the switching device are opened. The device includes a coil suppression circuit connected in parallel with the coil. The coil suppression circuit dissipates the energy stored in the coil in response to the de-energization of the coil. A first solid state switch has a gate operatively connected to the coil suppression circuit and
10 is connected in parallel with the contacts. The first solid state switch is movable between an open position preventing the flow of current therethrough and a closed position in response to the dissipation of energy by the coil suppression circuit.